



CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD BIOGRAPHIES

Vernon Chong, M.D., Major General (Ret), Chairman

Member since 2004

Prior to this appointment Dr. Chong served as special assistant to the network director of Veterans Integrated Service Network, based in San Francisco. Dr. Chong served 31 years in the United States Air Force, achieving the rank of Major General before his retirement. Dr. Chong earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Stanford University and a Doctor of Medicine degree at the Stanford University School of Medicine.

Leo P. Burke

Member since 1985

Mr. Burke has served as Chairman and Vice-Chair for the Board. Prior to his retirement he served for the last thirty one years as the Administrator of the Stockton Convention Center. In addition to his board duties Mr. Burke continues to serve on the San Joaquin Delta Community College Board of Trustees. Mr. Burke served in the U.S. Marine Corps, is a veteran of World War II.

Randal Bressette, Vice-Chairman

Member since 2006

Mr. Bressette is a partner in the Bressette Companies, a financial planning firm. Bressette is a founding member of the Laguna Hills City Council, serving since 1991, and served as Mayor in 1996, 2001 and 2005. He served in the United States Naval Reserve as an aircrew member from 1972 to 1985, retiring with the rank of chief warrant officer. Bressette received a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration at University of Red-

lands and a Master's degree in Financial Planning at Southern States University.

Jake I. Alarid

Member since 2006

Mr. Alarid is retired as an engineering manager for Rockwell International in 1994 after 35 years of service, during which he worked on the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs. Mr. Alarid served in the United States Marine Corps from 1952 to 1956.

Alice Astafan, Major General (Ret)

Member since 2006

She is currently the chief executive officer of the Federal Technology Center. Astafan served in the United States Air Force for over 30 years, retiring as a Major General. Astafan is a member of the National Advisory Committee for the Federal Laboratory Consortium and serves on the board of directors for the Eskaton Corporation. Astafan earned a Master's degree in International Affairs and Early Childhood Education at Sacramento State University, a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Chemistry and a graduate in the National and International Security Program at the John F. Kennedy Senior Managers in Government Program.